

TWO NEW SPECIES OF *VERBESINA* (ASTERACEAE, HELIANTHEAE)
FROM THE STATES OF JALISCO AND GUERRERO, MÉXICO

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ABSTRACT

Verbesina platanara *spec. nov.* and *Verbesina teotepecana* *spec. nov.*, new species from the states of Jalisco and Guerrero, respectively, are described. The former is seemingly related to *V. culminicola* McVaugh, but the latter apparently has no close relatives.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, *Verbesina*, México

Routine identification of Mexican Asteraceae has revealed the following novelties in the genus *Verbesina*.

Verbesina platanara B. Turner, *spec. nov.* TYPE: MÉXICO. Jalisco: Mpio. de San Martín Bolanos, Las Treinta Vueltas, 10 km al NW de El Platanar, 2200 m, *J. Rzedowski 26229* (HOLOTYPE: MICH!).

Verbesinae culminicola McVaugh *similis sed differt caulibus sine alis, capitulis majoribus ligulis longioribus, et acheniis sine pappo.*

Shrubs to 1.5 m high. Stems strigulose, wingless, glabrate with age. Leaves alternate, simple, crowded along the upper nodes, lanceolate to oblanceolate, 10-14 cm long, 1.5-3.0 cm wide, about equally tapering at both ends, sparsely hispidulous to nearly glabrate, the margins remotely serrulate to nearly entire. Head about 25 mm across the extended rays, single and axillary, the peduncle ca. 6 cm long. Involucres ca. 4 mm high, the bracts 2-3 seriate, grading into the obovate receptacular bracts. Ray florets ca. 11, pistillate, the ligules yellow, ca. 1 cm long, ca. 4 mm wide. Disk florets numerous (50+), the corollas yellow, ca. 3.5 mm long, the tube densely pubescent, ca. 1 mm long. Achenes (immature) ca. 3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, sparsely pubescent, epappose.

The species is apparently most closely related to *Verbesina culminicola* McVaugh on characters of the head and corolla, but differs in having wingless stems, larger heads borne singly in the leaf axils, and epappose achenes.

Verbesina teotepecana B. Turner, *spec. nov.* TYPE: MÉXICO. Guerrero: Mpio. Tlacotepec, Cerro Teotepec, pine-fir forests, 3300 m, 11 Apr 1963, J. Rzedowski 16500 (HOLOTYPE: MICH!).

Frutices usque ad 2.5 alti. Folia opposita sessilia lanceolata ac auriculata. Caules teretes dense glandulosi-pubescentes sine alis. Capitula radiata ac hemisphaerica, discus ca. 2 mm lati; involucria 10-12 mm alta, bracteae 2-4 seriatim lineari-lanceolatae apicibus acutis. Flosculi disci numerosi (100+), corollis luteis ca. 6 mm longis. Achenia ca. 4 mm longa, pappus aristis 2 cito deciduis 3-4 longis contans.

Shrub to 1.5 m high. Stems terete, densely glandular pubescent. Leaves 12-15 cm long, 3-4 cm wide, sessile, auriculate at the base, the apices gradually and narrowly acute, densely glandular pubescent on both surfaces. Heads hemispheric, radiate, ca. 18, borne terminal in a rounded capitulescence, not much exceeding the leaves, if at all. Involucres 10-12 mm high, ca. 2 cm across, the bracts black, linear-lanceolate, glandular pubescent. Ray florets 15-21, pistillate, the ligules 6-8 mm long, 3-5 mm wide, yellow. Disk florets numerous, the corollas ca. 6 mm long, yellow, the tube ca. 1.5 mm long, the throat tubular, ca. 3.5 mm long. Achenes about 4 mm long, narrowly alate, the pappus of 2 awns 2-3 mm long.

The opposite sessile auriculate leaves, large heads and densely glandular pubescent foliage readily distinguish this taxon. It has no close relative among the species of *Verbesina* known to me.

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